



EXPLORING *the* SUPERNATURAL!



NO. 11 - NOV.

# FORBIDDEN WORLDS

10¢

Can the CURSE OF A LONG-DEAD MUMMY STRIKE THROUGH THE AGES? READ THE CHILLING ANSWER IN "The MUMMY'S TREASURE!"

IT WAS YOU... WHO DISTURBED...MY REST! AND NOW...YOU MUST PAY!





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# THE MUMMY'S TREASURE!





**B**UT NOW THE FRIGHTFUL SCENE HAS BEEN SET...FOR DEATH!  
IT STARTED WITH A CHILDISH GAME OF HIDE AND SEEK...

C'MON, DANNY...THIS MUSEUM STUFF IS FER GIRLS! I'LL BE "IT!"

OKAY...I KNOW A PLACE YOU'LL NEVER FIND ME!



**B**ACK INTO THE EGYPTIAN ROOM...DARKENED NOW, IT SEEMED MORE EERY AND FORBIDDING THEN EVER! FEARFULLY, DANNY PAUSED...THEN...WENT ON!



G-GOSH! THAT OLD MUMMY CASE LOOKS ALMOST...  
**ALIVE!**



WHAT A PLACE TO HIDE! IF I CAN JUST MOVE THIS MUMMY CASE AND SQUEEZE BEHIND IT!

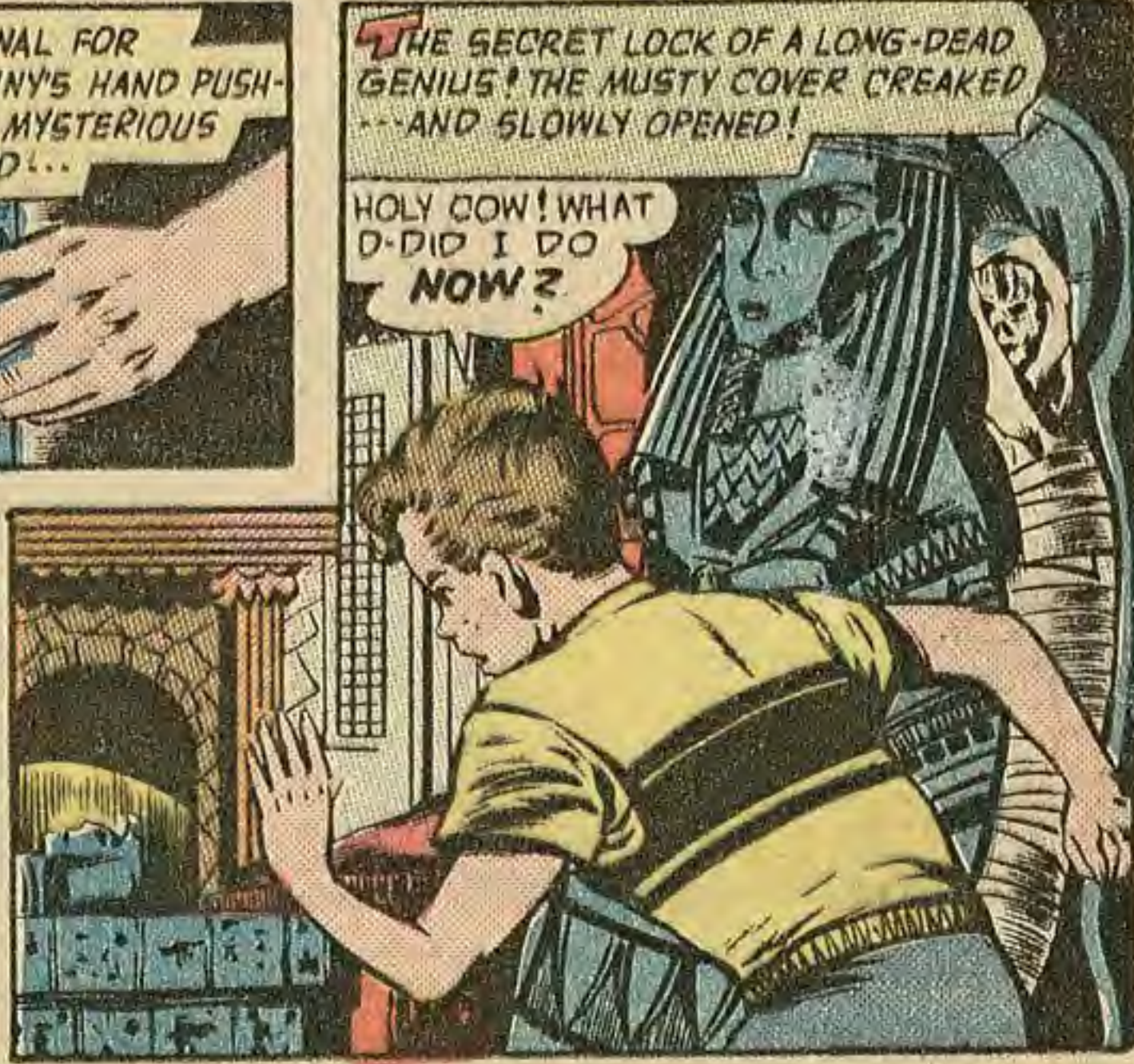


**T**HEN...THE SIGNAL FOR TERROR! DANNY'S HAND PUSHED AGAINST THE MYSTERIOUS INSCRIPTION, AND...



**T**HE SECRET LOCK OF A LONG-DEAD GENIUS! THE MUSTY COVER CREAKED...AND SLOWLY OPENED!

HOLY COW! WHAT D-DID I DO NOW?



**N**UMBED BY HORROR, DANNY'S EYES WERE DRAWN TO THE HIDEOUS THING INSIDE THE CASE! HARDLY BELIEVING HIS EYES, HE SAW...



ITS EYES...THEY'RE OPENING!

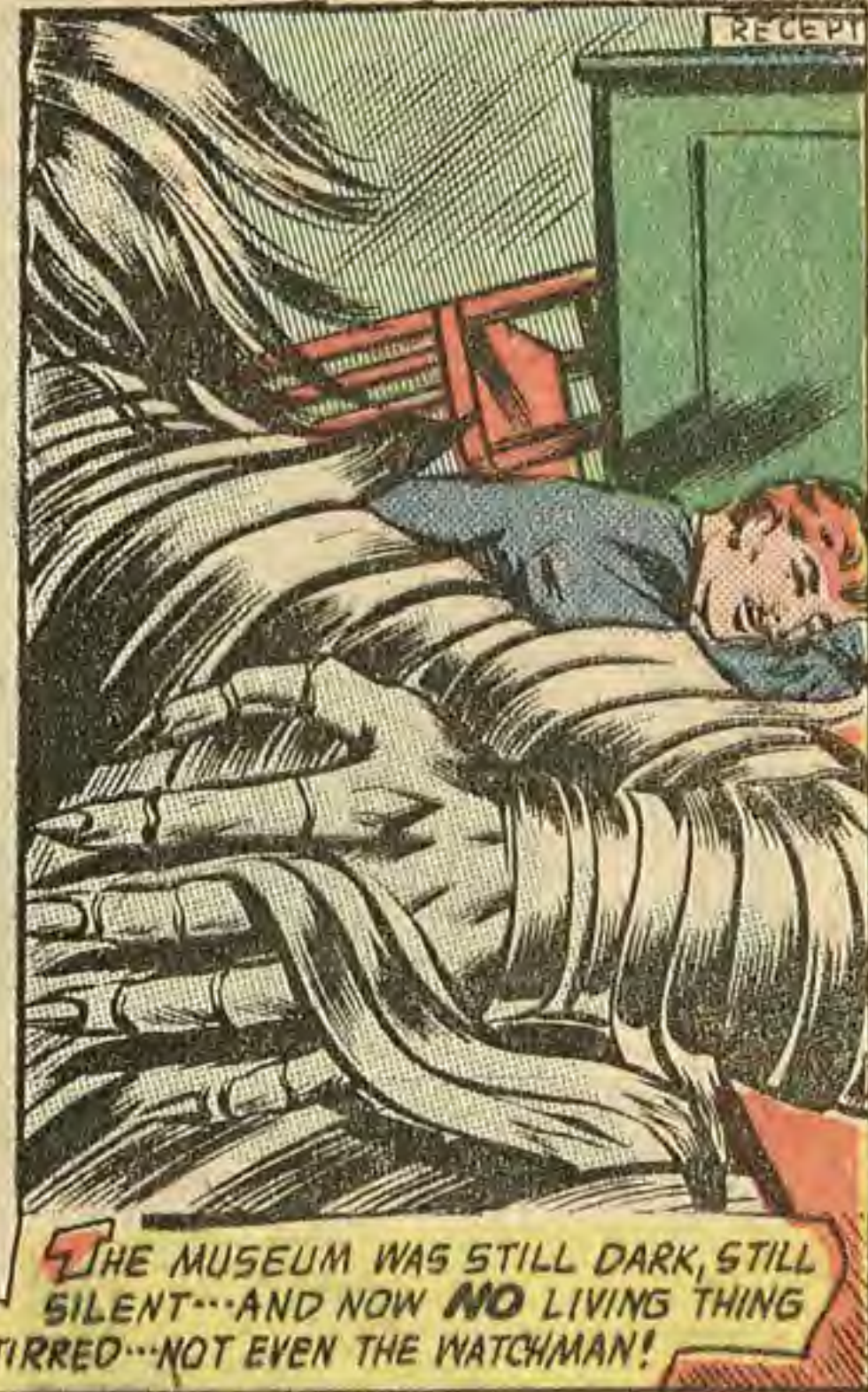
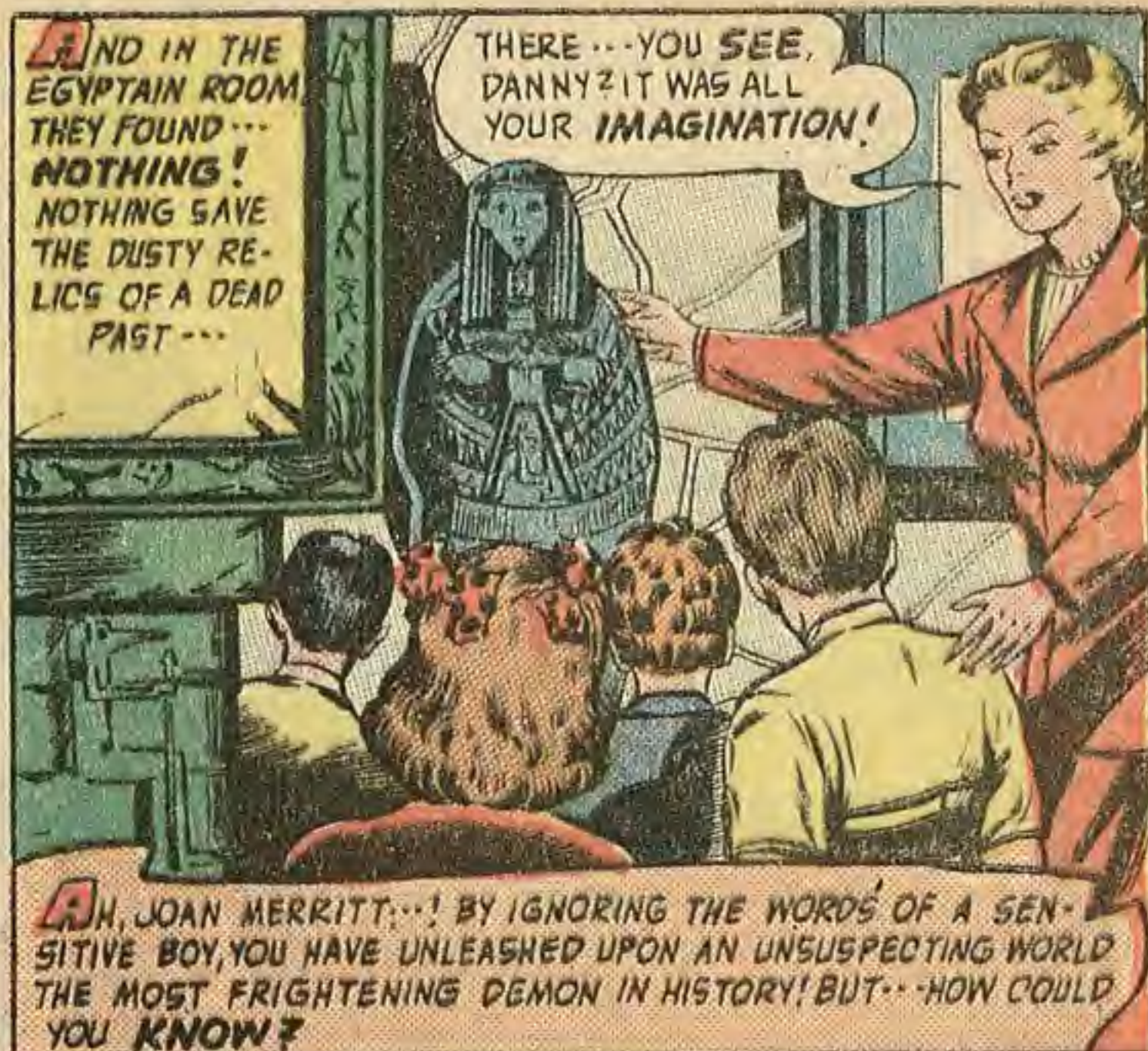
**T**HE STIFF ARMS GROPED...THE DEAD MUSCLES RESPONDED...AND...THE MUMMY STALKED OUT OF ITS DECAYING COFFIN!



**MISS MERRITT! HELP!**









THE STRANGE DUST COULD MEAN BUT **ONE THING**...YET EVEN TOUGH JERRY O'BRIEN PALED AT THE THOUGHT!

I HAVE A TERRIFYING HUNCH! THIS **X-RAY** MACHINE MAY PROVE IT!

THIS CASE GETS SCREWIER BY THE MINUTE! BUT MY READERS WILL **LOVE** IT! WHAT'S YOUR HUNCH, DOC?

THIS! GENTLEMEN...THE X-RAY MACHINE SHOWS THAT **THE MUMMY HAS DISAPPEARED!**

**HOLY COW!**...WHAT A STORY!

AND SINCE WE CAN'T OPEN THE MUMMY CASE FROM THE OUTSIDE...IT MEANS THAT THE CASE WAS OPENED FROM THE **INSIDE**... BY THE **MUMMY!**

**WOW!** I CAN SEE THE HEADLINES NOW..."**MUMMY, DEAD FOR 3000 YEARS, MURDERS WATCHMAN...POLICE BAFLED!**"

TED! WAIT A MINUTE!

LOOK, TED...IF YOU PRINT THIS STORY, IT WILL MAKE THE POLICE LOOK LIKE **FOOLS!**

OKAY...I'LL GIVE YOU TWENTY-FOUR HOURS TO COME UP WITH A **BETTER** STORY!

**L**ATE THAT NIGHT: A LONELY STREET NOT FAR FROM THE MUSEUM...A HAPPY COUPLE COMING HOME FROM A PARTY...

JOHN...I...I SAW SOMETHING MOVE...THERE IN THE BUSHES!

WE'LL SOON FIND OUT!

COME OUT OF THERE, YOU...**WH-WHAT!**

JOHN!...**LOOK OUT!**

**HELP!** **AARRGH!**



**N**EXT MORNING, A NAMELESS TERROR SEIZED THE CITY IN ITS MERCILESS GRIP... FOR NOW THE NEWSPAPERS COULD NO LONGER BE SILENCED...



**I**N THE OFFICE OF THE ANGRY POLICE COMMISSIONER...

O'BRIEN, YOU'VE MADE A LAUGHING STOCK OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT! IF THIS CASE ISN'T SOLVED BY **TOMORROW**, YOU'RE FIRED! ...AND FORGET THAT SCREWY MUMMY ANGLE!

OKAY, CHIEF... I'LL DO MY BEST!



**S**HORTLY AFTERWARD...

DETECTIVE O'BRIEN? I'M JOAN MERRITT, A SCHOOL-TEACHER... I HAVE SOME **IMPORTANT EVIDENCE!**

AS IF I DIDN'T HAVE **ENOUGH** TROUBLE! SHOOT, SISTER!



**B**REATHLESSLY, JOAN TOLD OF LITTLE DANNY'S EXPERIENCE IN THE MUSEUM! AND AS JERRY LISTENED, HE TRIED TO HIDE THE CREEPING DREAD THAT CHILLED HIM...

I... I DIDN'T BELIEVE DANNY'S STORY AT FIRST... BUT NOW... MAYBE THERE'S SOMETHING TO IT, AFTER ALL!

LET'S GO GET **DANNY!**



**A**T THE MUSEUM, DANNY RE-ENACTED HIS HEART-STOPPING ADVENTURE OF THE DAY BEFORE...

NOW SHOW ME EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENED, SON!

WELL, I... I PUSHED PAST THE MUMMY CASE... HOLDING IT HERE LIKE THIS... AN'...



**S**LOWLY, CREAKILY, THE ORNATE LID OPENED... FOR THE SECOND TIME IN 3000 YEARS!

IT... IT OPENED AGAIN... JUST LIKE BEFORE!

HA! THAT **SETTLES IT!** GUESS I WAS NUTS, THINKING THERE WAS ANYTHING **SUPERNATURAL** HERE!



THE MUMMY **DID NOT COMMIT THE CRIMES!** IT MUST HAVE BEEN DONE BY A HUMAN BEING... A FIEND WHO FOUND OUT HOW TO OPEN THE CASE, STOLE THE MUMMY... THEN MADE IT LOOK LIKE THE **MUMMY** PERFORMED THE MURDERS!







THE DETECTIVE WAS TRYING TO CONVINCE HIMSELF  
... AND NOW ... HE WENT A STEP FURTHER!

O'BRIEN ... ARE YOU SUGGEST-  
ING THAT THIS IS AN  
INSIDE JOB?

WELL ... WHO ELSE  
WOULD KNOW HOW  
TO OPEN THAT CASE  
... IF NOT YOU?

THANKS, DANNY  
... RUN ALONG  
HOME,  
NOW!



SORRY, DOC ... I'M ARRESTING  
YOU ON SUSPICION OF MUR ...

HEY, JERRY ... THERE'S  
BEEN **ANOTHER** MURDER  
... RIGHT OUTSIDE! **STRANGLED**  
... JUST LIKE THE OTHERS!



ONCE AGAIN,  
JERRY WAS FORCED  
TO BELIEVE THE  
IMPOSSIBLE!

GUESS I OWE YOU AN  
APOLOGY, DOC ... YOU  
WERE WITH **ME**  
WHEN THIS  
HAPPENED!

**JERRY!** I ... I'VE  
JUST THOUGHT  
OF SOMETHING ...  
SOMETHING  
**TERRIBLE!**



THE INSCRIPTION ON THAT MUMMY CASE ...  
"**WHOEVER DISTURBS MY REST MUST  
HIS GREATEST TREASURE SURRENDER!**"  
WASN'T IT ... **DANNY** WHO DISTURBED HIS  
REST?



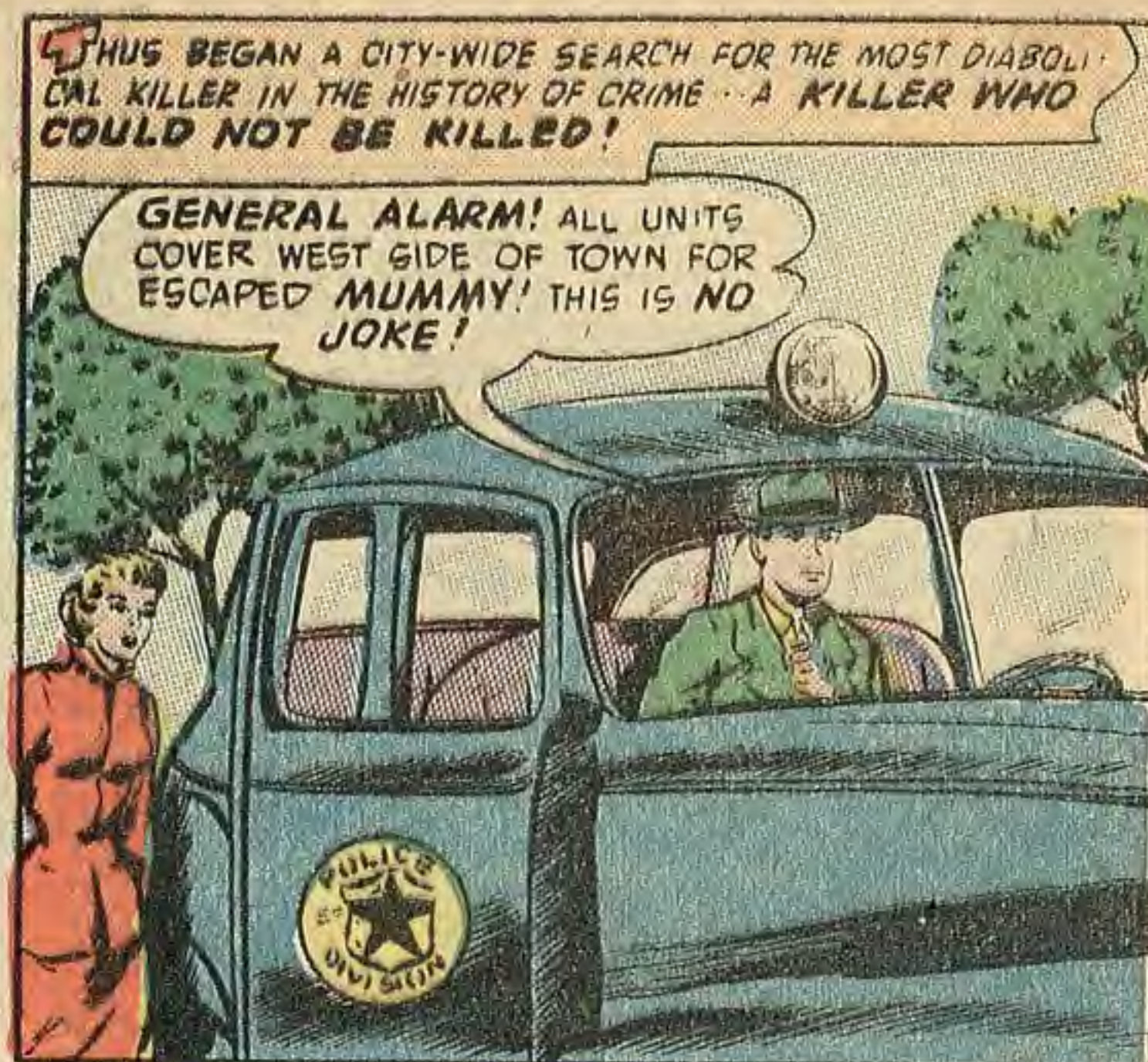
SAY, THAT'S **RIGHT!** AND A PERSON'S  
GREATEST TREASURE IS ... **HIS  
LIFE!**

THEN THAT ...  
THAT  
MEANS ...

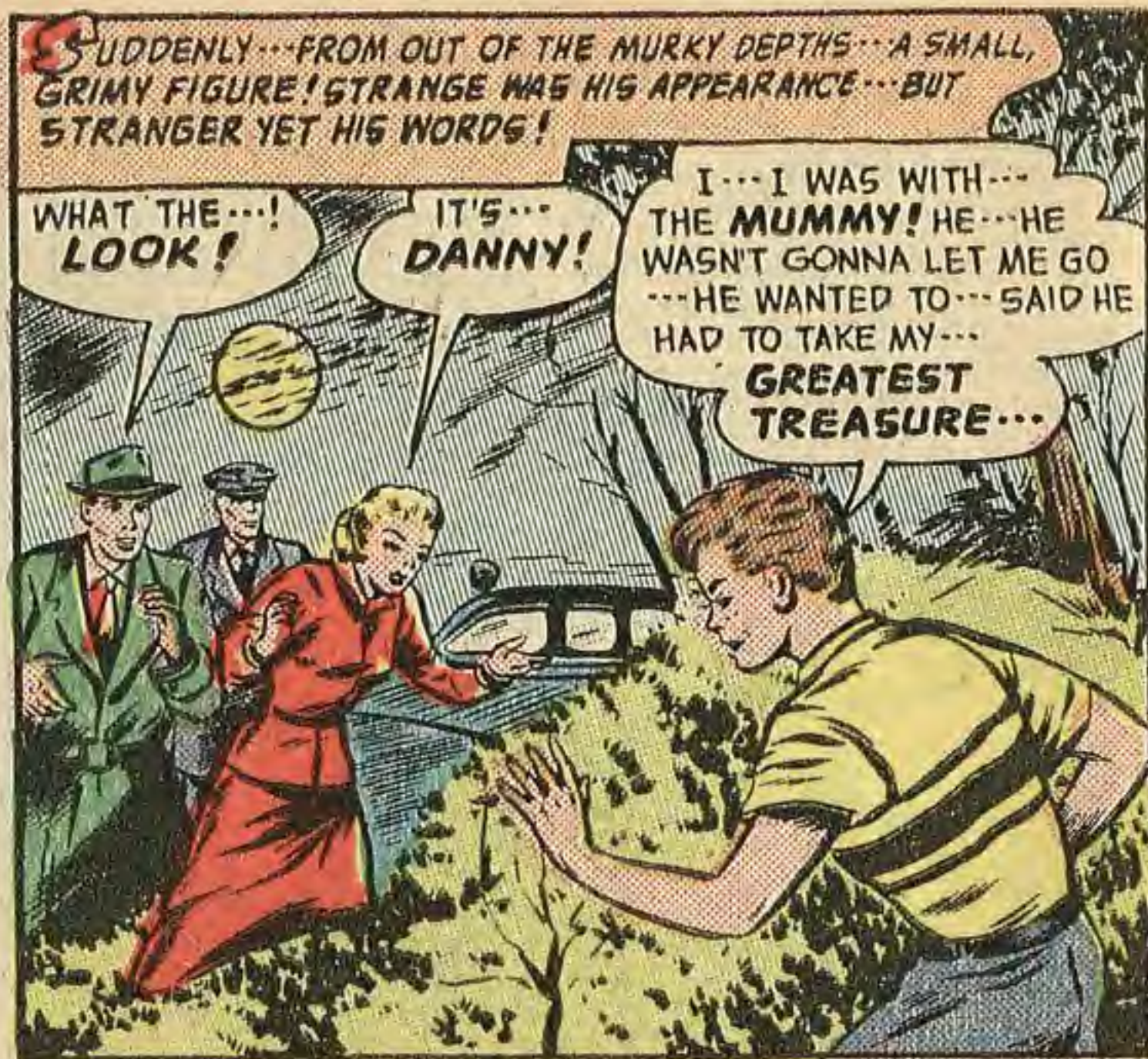
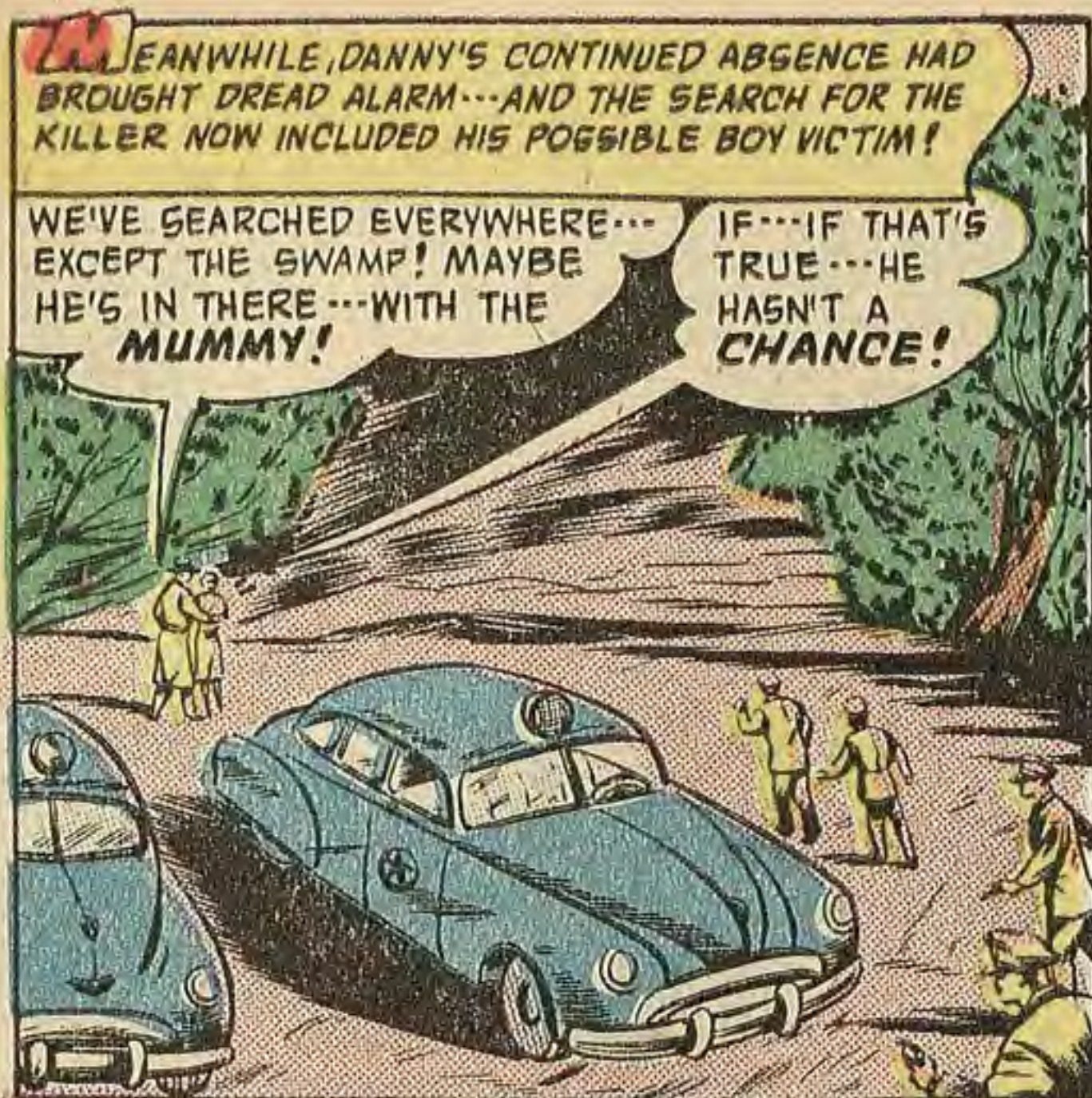


THAT MUMMY MAY BE ON ITS WAY TO  
**KILL DANNY!** ... WE'VE GOT TO  
GET THERE **FAST** ... AND **FIRST!**











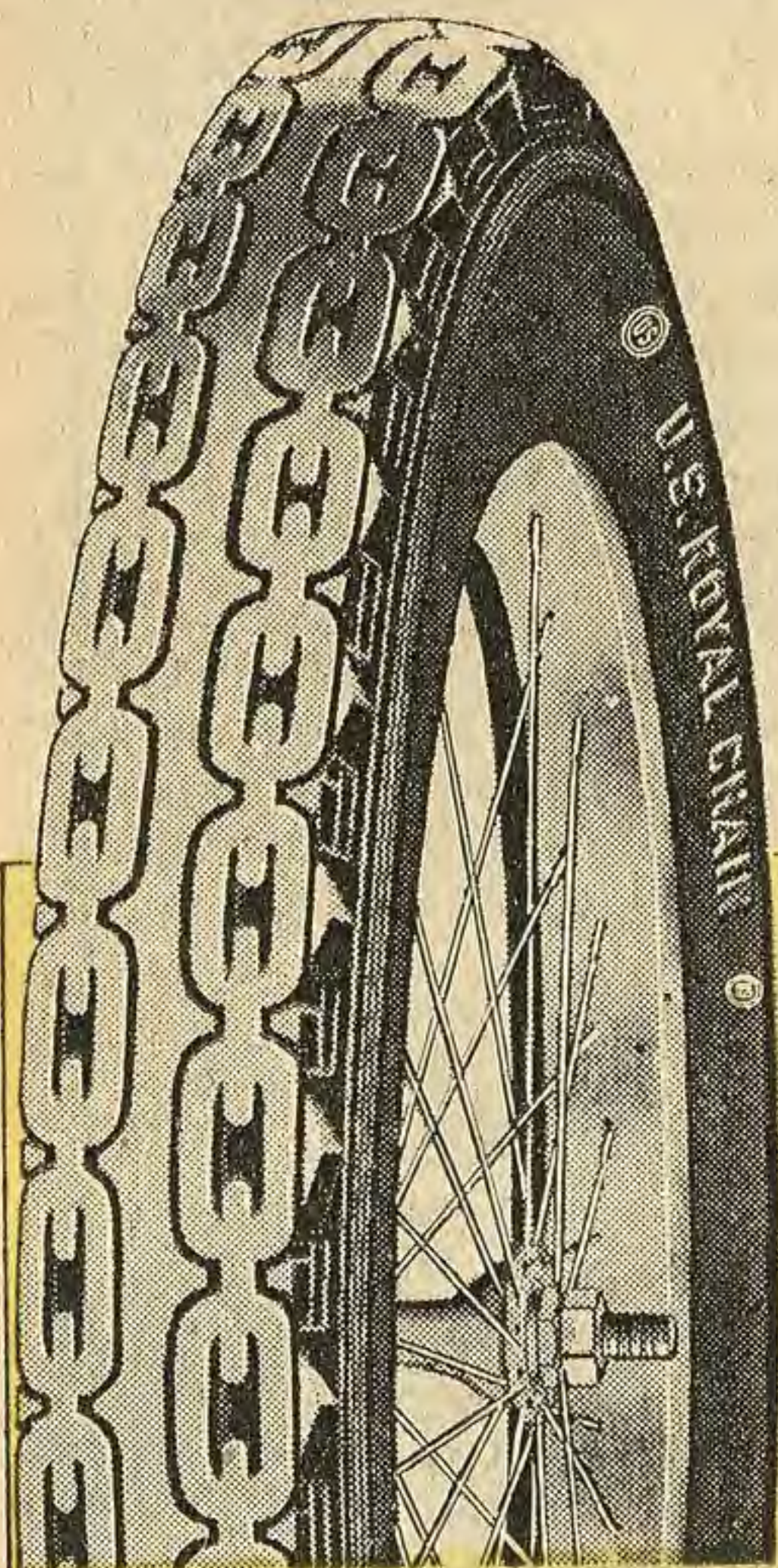


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# I AM DOOMED

**H**IS AVENGING GHOST will come again tonight, and there is nothing I can do but wait in this lonely house to the bitter end. I am tired of running... from him, from the police, from all those who think me mad. Ever since he first visited me, soon after I watched him buried, I have been waiting for this night...this last night on earth for me. It comes almost as a relief, for he has made living an unbearable agony.

Where can I go? How can I outrace the dead? He has pursued me to the four corners of the earth. He had appeared on mountain tops, in dense jungles, on ocean liners. But I have known all along that his purpose was to drive me mad, and finally, back to this house where I murdered him three years ago.

It is almost midnight now. The house is quiet but for the patter of raindrops on the window panes. I have decided to sit right here at the desk and write in the few moments that are left to me. I want the world to know that I am *not* mad, that the ghost of the man I murdered is abroad...stalking me relentlessly.

They will find me dead in the morning, before the ashes of the fire that is now throwing strange shadows on the wall. I will be found strangled, and the police will be mystified, because all the windows and doors are barred from the inside and no man can strangle himself. Perhaps they will recall that my best friend was found murdered that way in this room three years ago, but they will never admit the obvious that he came back to destroy me.

What was that? My heart suddenly throbbed and a clammy fear seized my throat at the unexpected sound. But it was only the shutter swinging against the window in the storm. My hand is shaking as I write and I suddenly realize

that I may not be able to bear what is to follow. Perhaps my heart will burst with fear when HE comes, perhaps I...

There! The hollow strokes of the great clock...sounding my death knoll from the darkened hall outside. Nine, ten, eleven...MIDNIGHT!

I am quite calm suddenly. Why struggle against the inevitable? There is a strange shuffling on the steps leading up to this room, like heavy sandbags being dragged across the floor. It is coming closer, getting louder. I pray I can keep my hand from shaking because I want everyone to know what this kind of terror is like...to know you are doomed. I want to describe exactly what he looks like when he comes through the door I have left purposely open.

My eyes are fixed on the top of the landing which is shrouded in gloom. I see a weird glow coming from below, a sort of eerie pale light which has always surrounded his disembodied corpse whenever he has appeared. There! I see the top of his head...now his ghastly face! It is horrible to look upon, its black sunken eyes staring at me fiercely. There is a glow of triumph there. Smile, you fiend, LAUGH! In a few moments the agony will be over for me.

He is at the door now, and his glow is radiating unearthly light all around him. He is coming closer and his hands are outstretched. I am writing faster and faster and I can't describe what it's like because my heart is pounding with fear and I feel the blood rushing from my face. I want to get up and scream and run. Escape, flee, run, anything to foil those hideous hands which are nearly at my throat now, nearly touching...ready to...



# THE CLUTCHING CURSE

THERE ARE SOME COUNTRYSIDES FOR WHICH DARKNESS SHOULD BE A BARRIER... TO KEEP THE UNWARY FROM VENTURING INTO ITS MISTY SOLITUDE... AS **THESE** TWO HAVE DONE ON THIS NIGHT OF NIGHTS! EVERY SHADOW HOLDS A SECRET TERROR... AND TERROR ITSELF BODES DEATH BEFORE DAWN... IN THE HOUSE OF **THE CLUTCHING CURSE!**

HEAVENS, BOB... WHY DID YOU TURN OFF THE HIGHWAY TO TRAVEL THROUGH A GLOOMY STRETCH LIKE THIS?

GUESS IT IS PRETTY DISMAL, ENID! ALMOST GIVES THE IMPRESSION OF SOMETHING **ALIVE**... BROODING OVER THE TERROR OF THE PAST!



**TERROR?** YOU MEAN SOMETHING ACTUALLY **HAPPENED** HERE?

**PLENTY!** LONG AGO, AN INVADING ARMY OVER-RAN THIS DISTRICT... AND SLAUGHTERED DOZENS OF FLEEING CIVILIANS! THAT'S WHY I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO DRIVE ALONG THIS ROAD... TO SEE IF I COULD SENSE THE OVER-WHELMING MOOD OF TRAGEDY THAT STILL CLINGS TO IT!

ANYWAY... IT'S **SUPPOSED** TO BE TRAGIC! BUT THE FURTHER WE GO, THE MORE I FEEL IT'S SOMETHING ELSE... LIKE AN **UNSEEN EVIL!**

**BOB!** GOOD HEAVENS... WHAT'S THAT THING IN THE ROAD?

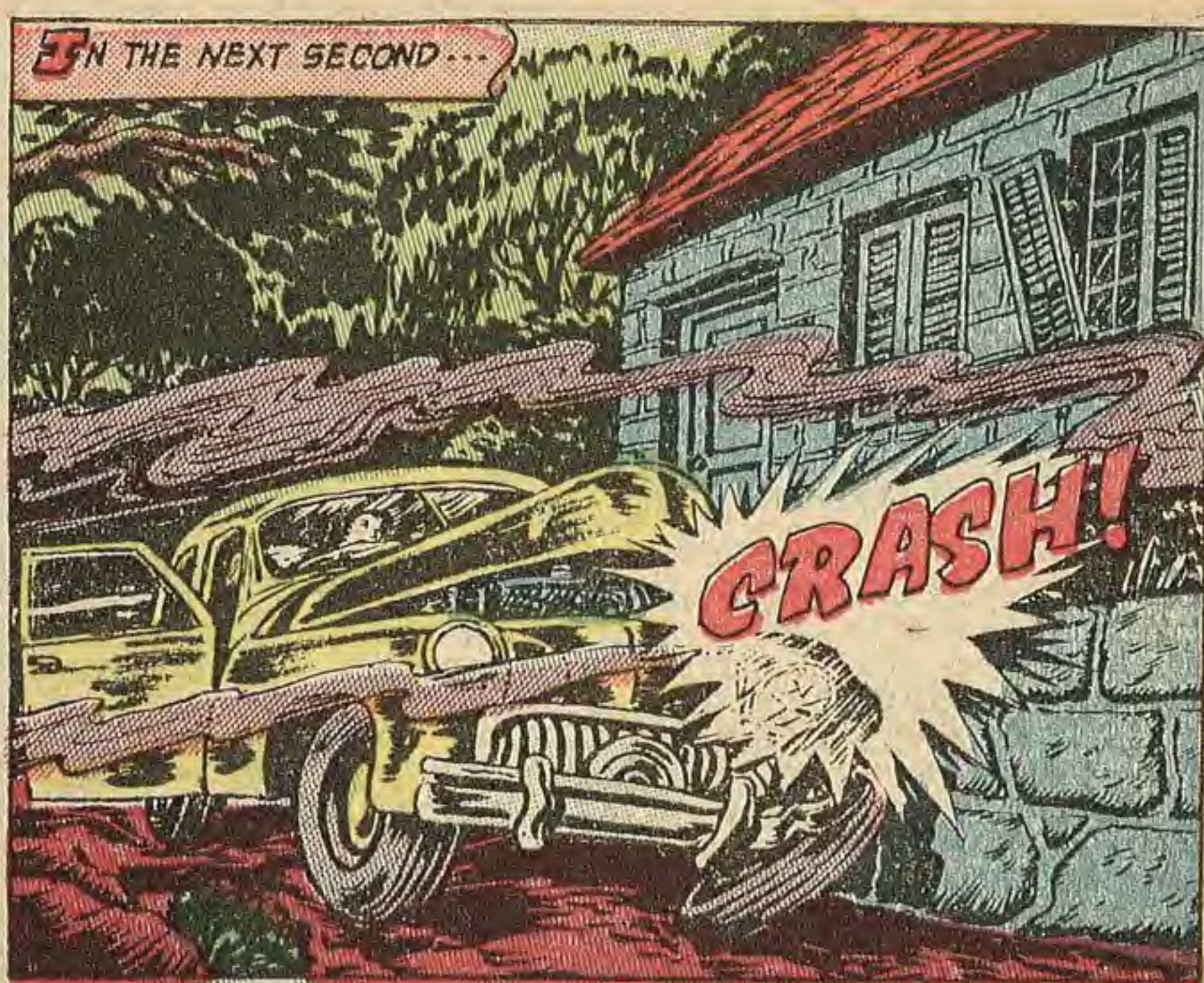
Then... AS THE GREY FORM FADES INTO A SWIRLING VAPOR...

I CAN'T SEE **ANYTHING**, HONEY... THERE'S A PATCH OF FOG SETTLING OVER THE ROAD!

THAT'S WHAT I SAW... A **GHOST** THAT'S CHANGING INTO A WEIRD MIST!









**THEN...AS THE WEIRD LIGHT RISES STARKLY...**

**IT'S THE GHOST AGAIN!**

I CAN SEE **NOW** THAT NO DOOR OR WINDOW WILL DO **US** ANY GOOD! WE CAN KEEP RUSHING THROUGH THE HOUSE UNTIL WE'RE READY TO DROP... **BECAUSE THE GHOST IS DETERMINED TO KEEP US IN!**



**SUDDENLY...AS A WAVE OF TERROR FILLS THE ROOM LIKE A LOATHESOME BREEZE...**

IT'S COMING **TOWARD** US, BOB! BUT **WHY...** WHEN WE'RE MOVING **AWAY** FROM THE WINDOW?

I CAN'T FIGURE IT! BUT I CAN FEEL SOMETHING **ELSE** STIRRING AROUND US...**POWERFUL** ENOUGH TO **MAKE THE CEILING SHUDDER!**



**IN THE NEXT SECOND...**

**LOOK OUT! THE CANDLE-ABRUM'S FALLING!**



NOW I'M SURE THAT **HIDEOUS** ATMOSPHERE WE DETECTED WAS A **WARNING...JUST BEFORE THE GHOST MADE A FIENDISH ATTEMPT TO KILL US!**

I **STILL** FEEL THERE'S **ANOTHER** FORCE AT WORK HERE, ENID...AND THAT THE GHOST IS AWARE OF IT! THERE IT IS AGAIN...**READY TO BAR OUR APPROACH TO THE NEAREST WINDOW!**



**A** MOMENT LATER...IN A ROOM MUFFLED BY HEAVY DRAPERIES...

THE GHOST ISN'T VISIBLE NOW... BUT I KNOW IT **WILL** BE...THE INSTANT WE MAKE A MOVE TO ESCAPE!

WE PROBABLY WON'T HAVE TO COPE WITH THE GHOST AS LONG AS WE KEEP CLEAR OF THE WINDOWS AND DOORS, HONEY... BUT IF THERE ARE GOING TO BE **MORE** STRANGE ACCIDENTS...WE'D BETTER DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS DARKNESS!



**ONE** HOUR FOLLOWS ANOTHER IN A HUSH WHERE TIME LOSES ALL MEANING...AND AS ENID STIRS...

SHE'S BEEN NAPPING PEACEFULLY, AND I HOPED SHE WOULDN'T NOTICE THE RETURN OF THAT NUMBING HORROR WE FELT BEFORE... **BUT IT'S GROWN STRONG ENOUGH TO AWAKEN HER!**

BOB... WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE LAMP? **IT'S MOVING!**



**THEN, UP AND DOWN...BACK AND FORTH...LIKE SOMETHING CARRIED BY AN UNSEEN WALKER...**

**BOB... WE'RE GOING TO BE LEFT IN DARKNESS!**

DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT! I MAY BE RESIGNED TO STAYING IN THIS CREEPY DEN...BUT I'M NOT GOING TO LET A HAUNT PAD OFF WITH OUR LIGHTS!







STRANGE! WONDER WHY THE LAMP IS STOPPING HERE?



IN THE NEXT SECOND...

BOB... LOOK OUT!

GREAT GUNS... THE GHOST!



AS THE LAMP SWERVES SLOWLY...

MAYBE THE GHOST HAD A **REASON** FOR MOVING THE LAMP... BUT WHAT MADE IT APPEAR SO SUDDENLY... WHEN WE WEREN'T EVEN THINKING OF A WAY TO ESCAPE?

I'M BEGINNING TO GET A NEW SLANT ON THE WHOLE UNCANNY BUSINESS, ENID! I'VE GOT A FEELING I WAS INCHES AWAY FROM DISASTER A MOMENT AGO... AND **MAYBE I CAN PROVE IT!**



LOOK... THE CHAIR'S **SINKING!** THERE'S AN OPENING UNDER THE RUG... AND I CAN HEAR A **GRATING NOISE!**

R-RRRRAK!



THEN... WITH THE CRUSHING FORCE OF A HUGE TRAP...

**HOLY MACKEREL!** THE WEIGHT OF THE CHAIR TRIPPED A POWERFUL SPRING... **RELEASING A SLIDING BLOCK OF STONE!**

**CRASH!**



BOB... HOW ON EARTH DID YOU GUESS YOU WERE BEING LED TOWARD DANGER?

WELL... IT DAWNED ON ME THAT THE GHOST HAS **TWO** REASONS FOR APPEARING! WE'VE ALREADY LEARNED IT DOESN'T WANT US TO LEAVE... **BUT IT'S ALSO DEFINITELY KEEPING US FROM HARM!**



AS THE GHOST STARTS TO DWINDLE...

IN OTHER WORDS, HONEY... THE DEADLY TRAPS IN THIS PLACE ARE MANIFESTATIONS OF THE TERROR WE FEEL FROM TIME TO TIME! AND FOR SOME REASON... **THE GHOST WANTS US TO REMAIN IN THE HOUSE AND FACE THIS INVISIBLE PRESENCE!**

BUT HOW CAN WE BE SURE THE GHOST ISN'T IN LEAGUE WITH THIS EVIL FORCE... AND THAT IT'S INTERVENING ONLY TO KEEP US ALIVE FOR A **NEW HEIGHT OF HORROR?**



I'M SURE OF **ONE** THING, ENID...THE GHOST **ISN'T** TRYING TO DO US HARM! THE EVIL FORCE IS TRYING TO **DRIVE US AWAY**... AND WITH THE GHOST TRYING TO PREVENT JUST THAT...IT MUST BE **OPPOSED** TO THE NAMELESS MENACE! WE CAN'T GET OUT ANYWAY, SO WE MIGHT AS WELL STEADY OUR NERVES AND TRY TO UNRAVEL THE ANSWER...BECAUSE SOMETHING'S **BOUND** TO EXPLAIN THE DREAD THAT LURKS WITHIN THESE WALLS!



**AGAIN**, TIME TIPTOES THROUGH THE BROODING HUSH...AND WITH THE LAMPLIGHT SCANNING THE DARKNESS LIKE A WATCHFUL EYE...

BOB...DID YOU WHISPER SOMETHING JUST NOW?

IT WASN'T ME... BUT I CAN HEAR THE DRONE OF VOICES COMING FROM **SOMEWHERE!**



**THEN**...SOUNDING HOLLOW AS FOOTFALLS IN A TOMB...

**THE CLUTCHING CURSE CAN BE DEFIED IF YOU RISK THE TERROR IN WHICH HE DIED!**

HEAR **THAT?** IT'S THE ANSWER TO THE DREAD THAT'S BLIGHTING THIS PLACE, ENID...  
**THE CLUTCHING CURSE!**



THE VOICES SEEM TO BE COMING FROM BELOW...SO LET'S GET THIS OVER WITH AND LEARN WHAT THEY MEAN!

BOB...I DON'T THINK THE GHOST WANTS US TO DO **THAT**, EITHER!



MAYBE NOT... BUT **THIS** TIME WE'RE GETTING PAST IT!

WAIT! IT'S MOTIONING... JUST AS IF IT'S SUMMONING SOMETHING FROM THE DARKNESS!



**AS** IF A GLOWING BLACK OOZE HAD BEEN CONJURED FROM THE SHADOWS...

YE GODS...WHAT IS IT?



**LIKE** A CREEPING FILM...ENFOLDING WHAT IT TOUCHES IN A SLUGGISH GRIP...

IT'S **CLUTCHING** US...LIKE SOME-THING ALIVE!

IT'S **HIDEOUS!** BOB, FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE...GET US FREE BEFORE WE'RE ENGULFED!







WITH A DESPERATE EFFORT...

QUICK...GET CLEAR  
BEFORE IT CRAWLS  
OVER US AGAIN!



SAY WHAT YOU WANT, BOB  
--- THIS PROVES THE  
GHOST CAN INFLICT  
HORROR AS BAD AS  
ANYTHING WE'VE  
FACED!

NO USE TELLING ENID  
THAT THE GHOST WAS  
MERELY TRYING TO CHECK  
US... KNOWING THAT THOSE  
VOICES WILL LEAD TO THE  
PAY-OFF OF HORROR! THE  
VOICES THEMSELVES WARNED  
THAT IT CAN MEAN **DEATH**  
... **THE ONE RISK THAT  
CAN END THE  
CLUTCHING  
CURSE!**



BOB...WHAT'S  
THAT SPLITCH  
OF EERIE LIGHT?

IT'S JUST  
THE GHOST  
---READY TO  
TAKE SHAPE  
IN ANOTHER  
ATTEMPT TO  
STOP US!  
**COME ON!**



THEN...

DO WE **HAVE** TO  
SNOOP AROUND  
HERE? THERE'S  
NOTHING MORE  
TERRIFYING THAN  
AN EMPTY ROOM  
---HOLDING NOTH-  
ING BUT DARK-  
NESS!

THE THING WE'RE  
AFTER CAN'T BE  
SEEN, HONEY...  
BUT IT'S HERE...  
**AND WE'VE GOT  
TO FIND IT!**



AS BOB AND ENID INCH  
FORWARD...

I DON'T KNOW  
ABOUT YOU...  
BUT I FEEL A  
STRANGE,  
QUIVERING  
SENSATION!

GREAT GUNS  
---IT'S NOT  
MERELY A  
SENSATION!  
**LOOK AT  
THE FLOOR!**



GOOD HEAVENS...  
IT'S SLIDING BACK!  
BOB...IF WE EVER  
LOSE OUR BALANCE...

EASY! GRAB MY  
ARM...AND TRY  
NOT TO GET  
DIZZY!



BELOW...HEAPED IN MUTE HORROR...

BOB...LOOK!  
THOSE ARE  
**BODIES!**

REMEMBER WHAT THOSE VOICES  
SAID? THEY'RE THE MOLDERING  
REMAINS OF **OTHER** PEOPLE WHO  
PASSED A NIGHT IN THIS HOUSE...  
ONLY TO DIE **HERE...IN A  
FUTILE ATTEMPT TO BREAK  
THE CLUTCHING CURSE!**







**A**S THE GHOST FADES---A FIGURE STANDS IN A DOORWAY THAT FRAMES THE FIRST PALE STREAKS OF DAWN!

GOOD HEAVENS  
...WHO IS IT?

IT'S **STILL** THE GHOST, ENID---  
BUT **NOW** IT'S TAKING ON THE  
FORM IT HAD IN LIFE!



YOU'RE ABLE TO  
SPEAK NOW---IS  
**THIS** WHAT WAS  
NEEDED TO END  
THE CLUTCHING  
CURSE---TO HAVE  
**HUMANS** WITH-  
STAND THE  
TERROR OF  
THIS PLACE---  
**UNTIL  
DAWN?**

YES---AND YOU HAVE  
SUCCEEDED! YEARS AGO,  
I TURNED HUMANS **AWAY**  
FROM THIS HOUSE---AND  
BY THAT ACT WAS DOOMED  
TO WAIT UNTIL ETERNITY,  
IF NEED BE, FOR MORTALS  
WHO COULD ESCAPE THE  
CLUTCHING CURSE FOR  
A SINGLE NIGHT!



IT WAS DURING THE INVASION---WHEN HELPLESS CIVIL-  
IANS FLED BEFORE THE BLOODTHIRSTY TROOPS! THESE  
MASSIVE WALLS WERE THEIR ONLY REFUGE---BUT WHY  
SHOULD I HAVE GIVEN THEM SHELTER---I, THE VERY TRAITOR  
WHO STOOD TO GAIN FROM THE INVASION? I WATCHED THEM  
DIE---REVILING ME IN THEIR LAST GASP---TELLING ME THAT

MY SPIRIT WOULD WATCH MANY  
OTHERS DIE WITHIN THE WALLS  
I BARRED TO **THEM**---  
BEFORE THE CLUTCHING  
CURSE RAN ITS COURSE!



BUT NOW MY SPIRIT IS FREE!  
NOW THE BODIES OF THOSE  
WHO DIED DURING COUNT-  
LESS HIDEOUS NIGHTS  
WILL RISE---AND  
**DESTROY THE  
CLUTCHING  
CURSE!**

BETTER  
STEEL YOUR-  
SELF, ENID!  
I CAN HEAR  
THINGS MOVING  
---DOWN IN  
THE PIT!



**T**HE CHARNEL DEPTHS STIR WITH A  
WAVE OF GLOWING MOTION---AND A  
SCORE OF LIFELESS HANDS REACH  
UP INTO THE GLOOM---TOWARD THE  
UNSEEN THING THAT IS THERE!

THESE HANDS SHALL SEEK...  
THESE HANDS SHALL REND!  
THE CLUTCHING CURSE  
HAS REACHED ITS END!



**D**ARKNESS HAS NO FORM---EVIL  
HAS NO SHAPE---BUT THE CLUTCH-  
ING CURSE THAT HAD LURKED IN  
BOTH FINDS A VOICE IN THAT FINAL  
MOMENT---HOWLING IN THE AGONY  
OF ITS UNSEEN DOOM!

**RAAGH!**



**L**ATER---IN THE REDEEMING LIGHT  
OF THE EARLY SUN---

IT WAS A HORRIBLE  
NIGHT, DARLING---  
BUT I'M GLAD IT  
HAPPENED, IN A  
WAY! NOW THIS  
PLACE IS JUST  
AN ORDINARY  
OLD HOUSE---  
NO GHOST---  
NO CURSE!

YEP---AND  
**EMPTY, TOO!**  
WITH THE REAL  
ESTATE SITUAT-  
ION WHAT IT IS,  
HONEY---MAYBE  
YOU AND I HAD  
BETTER FIND  
A JUSTICE OF  
THE PEACE  
**FAST!**



THE END  
8.





# 9th NEW...

## IT'S SPINE-TINGLING ...IT'S Different!

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# From **YOUR EDITOR** - to **YOU!**

**H**ELLO, READERS! GLAD to meet up with you again in this issue of "Forbidden Worlds"...and to have the opportunity of talking things over with our favorite fans!

Make no mistake about it...you *are* our favorite fans! Not only have you given us the loyal and enthusiastic support which is evidenced by a tremendous growth in the readership of this magazine, but you've gone all out in helping us make it a publication whose popularity has spread from coast to coast. In reality, it's gone beyond that...for "Forbidden Worlds" is now found in every quarter of the globe where English is spoken and understood.

How have you helped us? Simply by keeping us informed as to how you react to the stories we publish. Constantly, you've told us which stories you liked...which you didn't like...what you wish to see in future issues. And out of all this has emerged a strong editorial policy which is paying off in terms of a truly great magazine of the supernatural...the kind you want...the kind you're getting!

The American Comics Group, of which this publication is a leading unit, is com-

posed of many books, with readership soaring high into the millions. It's interesting to observe, in the face of such numbers, that our supernatural fans are by far the most vocal, and have cooperated with us every step of the way through their valued correspondence. We feel that this constitutes a tribute to their alertness and intelligence. It's helped us to frame great issues in the past...and this present one, we believe, ranks high. "The Mummy's Treasure" is tense, pulse-stirring...one of the weirdest and most imaginative stories to have come our way in many months. "The Clutching Curse" is the spell-binding account of an unseen evil which oozed from the shadows...and spread terror! Then, there's "The Wax Demons", a spine-tingling yarn of the evil dead, restored to life by the hand of Satan himself. And finally, "The Man Who Knew All", the tragic and thrilling tale of a man who foretold his own doom!

We hope you'll like this issue...but please, let us know! Address your letter to The Editor, "Forbidden Worlds", 45 West 45th St., New York 19, N. Y. Meanwhile...here's what some of our other readers think!

*"Dear Editor:-*

*I just finished reading the last issue of 'Forbidden Worlds' for the fourth time...and each time. I enjoyed it more! Your stories are truly excellent. I especially enjoyed 'The Ghoul's Return'. I'm going to make it a point never to miss one of your wonderful issues!*

*--Sarah Kelly, Forest, Miss."*

*"Dear Editor:-*

*I haven't missed a single issue of 'Forbidden Worlds', and never will. I've also read every other supernatural magazine, but find yours by far the best. Keep up the good work!*

*--Tommy Lowry, Beaumont, Texas."*

*"Dear Editor:-*

*I've read 'Forbidden Worlds', and love it! It's far better than any of our British comics. I enjoyed such really great stories as 'Land of The Living Dead' and find all of your plots fascinating. Thanks for some keen reading!*

*--Pearl Spence, Belfast, North Ireland."*



THEY SAY THE SPIRITS OF THE DEAD NEVER DIE-- THAT THEY STILL EXIST-- SOMEWHERE! WHAT IF THE DEPRAVED SPIRITS OF HISTORY'S MAD LEADERS COULD FIND NEW BODIES-- BODIES THAT NO LIVING MAN COULD DESTROY? HOW WOULD HUMANITY COPE WITH THIS MENACE? READ, IF YOU DARE, HOW THREE PEOPLE FOUGHT TO SAVE THE WORLD FROM...

# The WAX DEMONS

I' ALMOST DESTROYED CIVILIZATION ONCE, AND THIS TIME-- I WILL NOT FAIL! FOR NOW-- I AM INDESTRUCTIBLE!

GREAT SCOTT! THESE BULLETS-- GO RIGHT THROUGH HIM!



HARRY LAZARUS.

AT A CITY AMUSEMENT PARK ...

STEP RIGHT UP FOLKS-- SEE THE FAMOUS MEN OF HISTORY AS THEY LOOKED IN REAL LIFE!

NOT ONE CUSTOMER TODAY! DAD'LL BE HEARTBROKEN!

PROF. SHERMAN'S  
WAX  
MUSEUM

TICKETS  
25¢

MEANWHILE, INSIDE, AMONG THE EERIE WAXEN IMAGES OF GOOD AND EVIL MEN FROM OUT THE AGES ...

AH-- IF ONLY YOU GOOD MEN COULD LIVE AGAIN -- TO RULE MANKIND IN YOUR WISDOM! I-- I'D GIVE ANYTHING!





SUDDENLY, A BLINDING FLASH, A PALL OF SULPHUROUS SMOKE, AND...



GOOD HEAVENS! THAT IMAGE OF SATAN-- IT'S MOVING-- SPEAKING!

OF COURSE -- I ALWAYS ANSWER SUCH PLEAS AS YOURS! PERHAPS-- WE CAN DO BUSINESS!

FROM TIME IMMEMORIAL, I HAVE RECEIVED MANKIND'S WICKED SOULS -- BUT ONCE IN A WHILE I HAVE A CHANCE TO CAPTURE A GOOD ONE! IN EXCHANGE FOR YOURS-- I'LL BRING YOUR WAXEN IMAGES-- BACK TO LIFE!



WHAT DOES MY LIFE MATTER, IF SUCH MEN AS LINCOLN AND JEFFERSON COULD LIVE AGAIN-- TO BRING THE WORLD SALVATION?



ALL... ALL RIGHT! I'LL DO IT!

GOOD! BUT FIRST THIS CONTRACT MUST BE SIGNED-- IN BLOOD!

WITNESSED ONLY BY THE SIGHTLESS EYES OF THE LIFELESS IMAGES, THE DREADFUL PACT WAS SIGNED! THEN...

INSTANTLY, ANOTHER FLASH OF ALIEN FLAME -- AND SATAN DISAPPEARED...

YOU HAVE YOUR INSTRUCTIONS -- CARRY THEM OUT, AT MIDNIGHT! THEN WILL YOUR WAXEN STATUES LIVE -- BUT FOR ONLY ONE MONTH! AFTER THAT, I WILL RETURN -- TO COLLECT YOUR SOUL!



DAD, I THOUGHT I HEARD-- OHHH!

B-BUT I COULD HAVE SWORN THE STATUE OF SATAN WAS OVER HERE. WALKING, TALKING TO YOU!



IT'S YOUR IMAGINATION, FRAN! SEE, THERE'S ONLY THIS PUFF OF SMOKE WHERE I WAS BURNING SOMETHING!



SHE MUSTN'T KNOW-- WOULDN'T LET ME SACRIFICE MYSELF FOR SOCIETY!



LOOK, SATAN'S STATUE IS STILL IN PLACE-- QUITE LIFELESS! YOUR NERVES MUST BE FRAYED!

I... I GUESS SO! MAYBE I'D BETTER SEE LEN!





LATER, IN THE OFFICE OF DR. LEN CLARK...

MAYBE I AM OVER-TIRED, BUT FRANKLY-- I THINK I'M LOSING MY MIND!

NONSENSE, FRAN-- BUT TELL ME THE WHOLE STORY, FROM THE BEGINNING!



AFTER THE INCREDIBLE TALE WAS TOLD...

HONESTLY, FRAN-- I THINK YOUR NERVES ARE SHOT! AFTER ALL, WALKING STATUES, TALKING DEVILS ---

WAIT! THE DEVIL SAID THE STATUES WOULD COME TO LIFE AT MIDNIGHT! LET'S BE THERE!



WELL, OKAY-- I'LL HUMOR YOU! BUT AFTERWARDS, WHEN NOTHING HAPPENS, YOU'LL GO ON A LONG VACATION-- AGREED?

AGREED! BUT I HAVE A TERRIFYING PREMONITION THAT SOMETHING WILL HAPPEN-- SOMETHING DREADFUL!



MIDNIGHT! A PALL OF GLOOM SEEMED TO HANG OVER THE DARKENED MUSEUM! MEANWHILE, HIDDEN FROM VIEW, LEN AND FRAN WATCHED INTENTLY...

SHH! IT'S FATHER! HE'S BURNING SOMETHING!

SMELLS LIKE SULPHUR!

O SPIRITS OF THE DEAD-- MAKE THESE WAXEN BODIES ALIVE! BY THE POWERS OF DARKNESS, I COMMAND THEE!



LEN-- LOOK!

WHAT THE..! WE CAN'T BOTH BE MAD!



THEN, STIRRING WITH THE GHASTLY BREATH OF LIVING EVIL --

WE HAVE HEARD THE COMMAND OF THE UNHOLY POWERS! WE OBEY-- WE LIVE!

NO! NO! THIS IS NOT WHAT I WANTED!





THE DEVIL HAS TRICKED ME!  
ONLY HISTORY'S DESPOTS  
HAVE GAINED LIFE! THE  
HEROES, THE GOOD MEN--  
THEY'RE STILL DEAD!



YES, IT IS WRITTEN THAT SATAN  
HAS POWER ONLY OVER THE  
SOULS OF THE EVIL! THUS, LIFE  
HAD BEEN GIVEN ONLY TO  
MUSSOLINI, JACK THE RIPPER, AND  
ATTILA THE HUN! BUT-- THE  
ACME OF HORROR WAS  
YET TO COME...

THAT RAPPING--  
IT COMES FROM  
THAT  
WOODEN  
BOX!

IT'S A  
NEW  
STATUE!  
IT JUST  
ARRIVED  
TODAY,  
BUT...



NO, PLEASE!  
NOT-- HIM!

OUT  
OF MY  
WAY!



THEN, MORE EVIL, GRIMMER THAN EVER--  
HISTORY'S ARCH-CRIMINAL!

I HAVE BEEN GIVEN ANOTHER CHANCE!  
THIS TIME, WITH SUCH HELPERS, I SHALL  
NOT FAIL! I WILL DESTROY  
CIVILIZATION-- IN  
ONE MONTH!



NO, LEN  
-- YOU  
MUSTN'T!

IT'S ALL  
I CAN  
TAKE!  
I'M  
PUTTING  
A STOP  
TO THIS  
RIGHT  
NOW!

THIS SHOULD CUT THE  
WICK OUT OF YOU  
WALKING CANDLES!  
WHAT THE---!

Dumkopf! YOU CANNOT  
HARM MY WAX BODY! I  
AM INVULNERABLE!



WELL DONE, ATTILA!  
COME, MY FRIENDS  
-- WE HAVE  
WORK  
TO DO!

OHHH.











BUT YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND! THEY...

LOOK, DOC-- I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS NONSENSE! IF IT WEREN'T FOR YOUR REPUTATION, I'D RUN YOU IN!

BUT AS SOON AS THE POLICE LEFT...

LOOK OUT! THEY'RE MOVING AGAIN!

OF COURSE, YOU IDIOTS! YOU SHOULD HAVE LEFT WHEN YOU COULD! SEIZE THEM!



AFTER A SHORT, BUT FIERCE STRUGGLE...

YOU DEMONS-- YOU'LL NEVER GET AWAY WITH THIS!

NO? PERHAPS YOU'LL FEEL DIFFERENTLY.. AFTER WE STEAL AN ATOM BOMB! WHEN WE RETURN, YOU WILL DIE-- ALONG WITH THE REST OF CIVILIZATION!

MEANWHILE, AT THE MUSEUM...

PROFESSOR, YOU'D BETTER GO TO THE OLD WAREHOUSE AND COLLECT YOUR STATUES-- AND TELL FRAN TO STOP PLAYING GAMES!

GOOD HEAVENS! SHE MUST BE IN TROUBLE ALREADY!



MINUTES LATER...

...AND THAT'S THE STORY, DAD! OH, WHAT CAN WE DO? W-W-E'RE HELPLESS!

PERHAPS-- NOT!

YOU KIDDIN'? NOTHING CAN STOP THOSE FREAKS!



A STRANGE LIGHT APPEARED IN THE PROFESSOR'S EYES! THEN...

I DON'T WANT FRAN TO HEAR, BUT I HAVE A PLAN-- THE ONLY PLAN THAT CAN WORK AGAINST THOSE MONSTERS! LISTEN...

ALL RIGHT-- BUT MEANWHILE CUT ME FREE!





WHEN THE PROFESSOR'S GRIM DETERMINATION WAS UNFOLDED...



AS MIDNIGHT STRUCK IN THE DARKENED MUSEUM, WITH THE FATE OF MANKIND HANGING IN THE BALANCE...



HEAR MY WORDS, O SATAN-- MIGHTY RULER OF THE UNDERWORLD! RISE.. RISE!

WHY AM I SUMMONED SO SOON? IT IS NOT YET TIME!



I HAVE FAILED HUMANITY.. AND HAVE NOTHING MORE TO LIVE FOR! TAKE MY SOUL.. NOW!



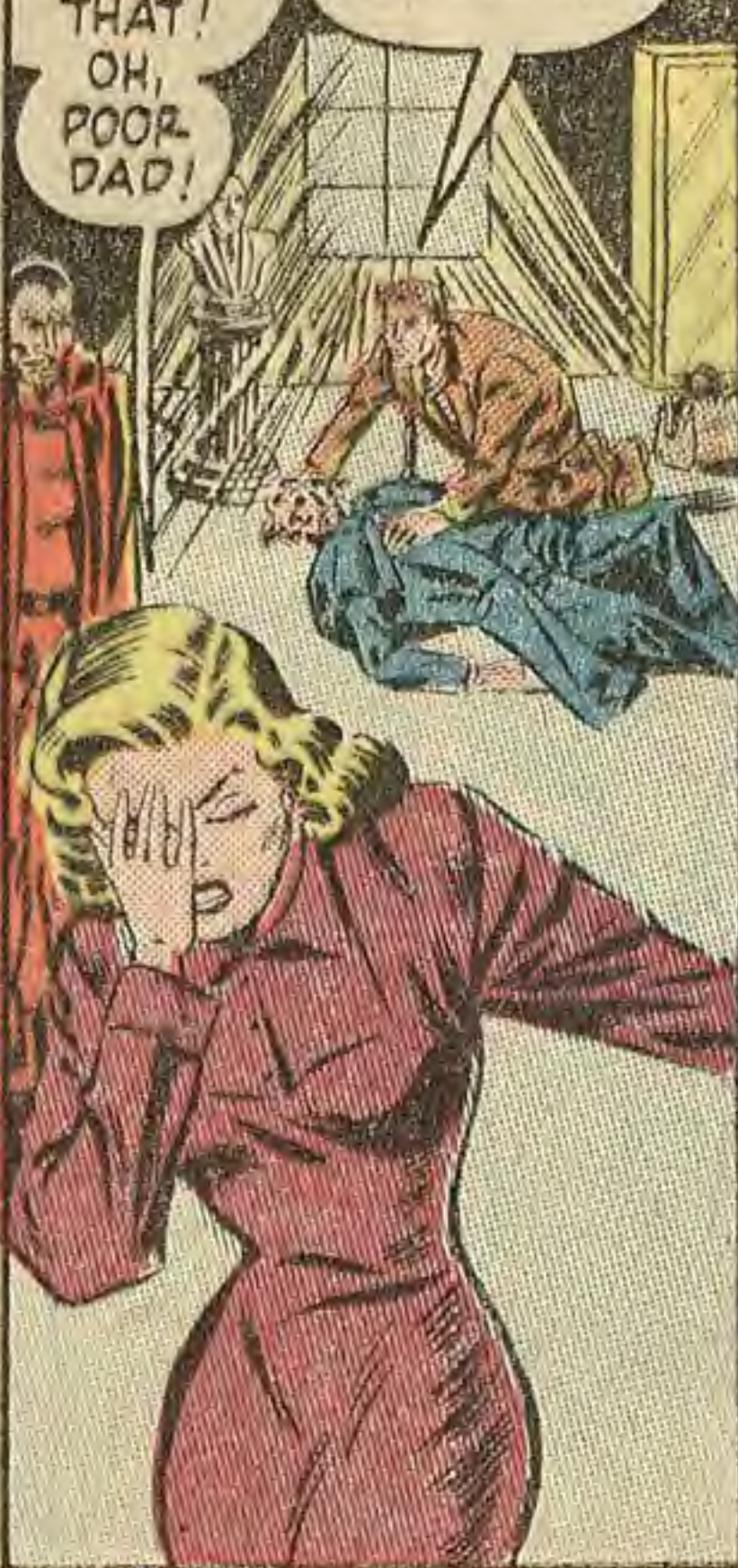
HA!-- AND I EXPECTED A STRUGGLE! COME, WE GO TO MY KINGDOM-- IN THE UNDERWORLD!



NEXT MORNING...

I... I FOUND HIM JUST LIKE THAT! OH, POOR DAD!

IT WAS A HEART ATTACK, FRAN-- VERY SUDDEN!



DAYS LATER, WHEN A LONG WOODEN BOX ARRIVED AT THE MUSEUM...

WHY, IT'S A.. A WAX STATUE.. OF FATHER! BUT.. WHY?

YOU'LL FIND OUT -- AT MIDNIGHT!





ONCE AGAIN, AT THE WITCHING HOUR,  
AS THE FEARFUL INCANTATION ECHOED  
IN THE SHROUDED GLOOM...



O SPIRIT  
OF THE DEAD--  
ENTER THIS  
WAXEN BODY--  
MAKE IT  
LIVE! BY  
THE POWERS  
OF DARKNESS,  
I COMMAND  
THEE!

LOOK--  
IT'S  
MOVING!

YES-- I'M ALIVE! FRAN,  
DEAR, I HAD TO DO  
THIS-- TO LEARN  
HITLER'S PLANS,  
AND OUTWIT HIM--  
AS A FELLOW  
SPIRIT!



HERE'S THE  
PACKAGE YOU  
ORDERED--  
FROM THE  
HARDWARE  
STORE!

GOOD-- WE'LL  
NEED IT! NOW,  
WE MUST WORK  
FAST-- THE  
FIENDS  
ALREADY  
HAVE THE  
BOMB!



THE FINAL MEETING OF THE UNHOLY FOUR-- AND IN  
AN INNOCENT-LOOKING VALISE: THE POWER  
TO DESTROY AN ENTIRE CITY!



EVERYTHING  
IS READY!  
TONIGHT--  
WE  
STRIKE!

... NOT  
IF WE  
CAN  
HELP  
IT!

THAT VOICE-- IT'S HIM  
AGAIN! KILL HIM!

YEAH? WE'LL  
SEE ABOUT--  
THAT!



THIS'D  
BETTER  
WORK!

HA! YOU'RE TRAPPED!  
THERE ARE NO OTHER  
EXITS TO THIS ROOM,  
AND NOW-- YOU DIE--  
MESSILY!





BUT AT THAT CRUCIAL MOMENT, THE PROFESSOR MADE HIS WELL-TIMED APPEARANCE -- WITH AN ACETYLENE TORCH...



NO, HITLER-- YOU ARE TRAPPED! IT TOOK THE ENTIRE WORLD TO DEFEAT YOU LAST TIME! BUT NOW-- ONLY THIS IS NECESSARY!

Ach!

YOU OLD FOOL-- I TOLD YOU WE WE INVULNERABLE! BUT YOU'RE NOT!

HA! HA! I'M MADE OF WAX, TOO-- EVEN AS YOU! AND NOW, LET'S SEE IF YOU'RE INVULNERABLE TO FIRE!



AND THUS, HITLER'S SECOND ATTEMPT TO DESTROY THE WORLD ENDED IN SEARING FLAME-- LIKE THE FIRST!



THE GHASTLY BUSINESS DONE, THEY RETURNED TO THE MUSEUM-- FOR ANOTHER MEETING!

NOW, SATAN-- MY WORK IS DONE! I AM READY TO GO WITH YOU-- FOR GOOD!

NO! YOU'RE TOO GOOD! YOU'D CORRUPT MY DOMAIN! YOU'LL HAVE TO GO ELSEWHERE! FAREWELL!



AS THE DEFEATED DEVIL DISAPPEARED...

WELL, I... I GUESS THERE'S ONLY ONE OTHER PLACE I CAN GO! SO LONG, KIDS-- AND GOOD LUCK!



AS THE PROFESSOR TOOK HIS PLACE AMONG THE WAX STATUES THAT REMAINED, HIS FEATURES STIFFENED, THE LIFE FORCE VANISHED-- UNTIL ONLY THE SMILE REMAINED...

WELL, ANYWAY-- HE'S CERTAINLY IN GOOD COMPANY!





# "True" VAMPIRES History

DURING THE MIDDLE AGES, THE BATHORY FAMILY WAS ONE OF THE WEALTHIEST AND MOST POWERFUL IN HUNGARY, NUMBERING AMONG ITS MEMBERS KINGS, JUDGES, AND GOVERNORS-- AND THE MOST NOTORIOUS VAMPIRE OF ALL TIME-- COUNTESS ELIZABETH BATHORY!



WHEN ELIZABETH WAS BORN IN 1560, THE BATHORY FAMILY HAD ALREADY BECOME ADDICTED TO THE PRACTICE OF SORCERY AND WITCHCRAFT! ELIZABETH HERSELF WAS BROUGHT UP BY PEOPLE LIKE ILONE JOF, A NURSE-WITCH... THORKO, THE MANSERVANT-SORCERER... DOROTTYA SZENTES AND DARVULA, FOREST WITCHES-- ALL OF WHOM TAUGHT THE YOUNG ELIZABETH EVERYTHING THEY KNEW OF BLACK MAGIC!



BUT THE COUNTESS DIDN'T LEARN THE MOST GHASTLY SECRETS OF THE DEVIL'S ARTS UNTIL SHE ELOPED WITH A YOUNG NOBLEMAN WHO WAS HIMSELF SAID TO BE-- A VAMPIRE!



SOON AFTERWARDS, ELIZABETH RETURNED TO THE CASTLE OF CSEJTH, ALONE-- AND THE YOUNG NOBLEMAN WAS NEVER HEARD OF AGAIN! RUMORS WERE RIFE THAT THE COUNTESS HAD MADE HIM HER FIRST VICTIM-- AND PEASANTS BEGAN TO CLAIM THAT THE FIGURE OF THE COUNTESS COULD BE SEEN FLITTING OUT OF THE CASTLE WINDOWS AT NIGHT-- AS A VAMPIRE!



SOON PEASANT GIRLS BY THE SCORE BEGAN DISAPPEARING FROM THE COUNTRYSIDE-- TO END UP AS THE COUNTESS' VICTIMS IN THE DUNGEONS AND CELLARS OF THE CASTLE!



AUTHORITIES WERE AFRAID TO ACT-- BECAUSE ELIZABETH WAS SAID TO HAVE A CERTAIN INCANTATION, KEPT CONTINUOUSLY ON HER PERSON, WHICH WOULD BRING HORRIBLE DEATH TO THOSE WHO TRIED TO HARM HER! BUT FINALLY A SERVING MAID, DEMOISELLES BARSOVNY, WAS BRIBED TO STEAL THE INCANTATION WHILE THE COUNTESS SLEPT!

LISTEN-- THIS DEVILISH INCANTATION CALLS ON SATAN TO SEND NINETY-NINE CATS TO DESTROY ELIZABETH'S ENEMIES! AND---

READ NO FURTHER! BURN THE INCANTATION-- AND THEN THE COUNTESS BATHORY WILL BE POWERLESS TO RESIST US!





ON THE NIGHT OF DECEMBER 31ST, 1590, THE CASTLE OF CSEJTH WAS RAIDED BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE PROVINCE AND SOLDIERS-- BUT EVEN THOUGH THE INCANTATION WAS DESTROYED, SIX "ENCHANTED" FELINE SHAPES LEAPED OUT OF NOWHERE TO ATTACK THE GOVERNOR AS HE DESCENDED THE STEPS LEADING TO THE DUNGEONS!



BUT WHEN THE GUARDS THRUST UP THEIR PIKES IN DEFENSE...



UNDAUNTED, THE GOVERNOR AND THE SOLDIERS BURST INTO THE DUNGEONS-- AND INTERRUPTED THE HIDEOUS RITES BEING ENACTED!



WHEN THE BODIES OF SOME FIFTY VICTIMS WERE EXHUMED FROM THE DUNGEON FLOORS, THE WITCHES CONFESSED TO THEIR HORRIBLE CRIMES! AT THEIR TRIAL IN BISCHÉ IN JANUARY, 1591...



THEODOSIUS DE SZULO, JUDGE OF THE ROYAL SUPREME COURT, SENTENCED ALL OF THE COUNTESS' ACCOMPLICES TO DEATH!



BUT THE COUNTESS BATHORY WAS WALLED UP IN HER OWN BEDCHAMBER BY ORDER OF THE KING HIMSELF-- AND WAS CONDEMNED TO SOLITARY IMPRISONMENT FOR LIFE!



ON AUGUST 21ST, 1614, COUNTESS ELIZABETH BATHORY DIED-- AND THE DIABOLICAL CAREER OF THE MOST INFAMOUS VAMPIRE OF ALL TIME WAS OVER!

THE END



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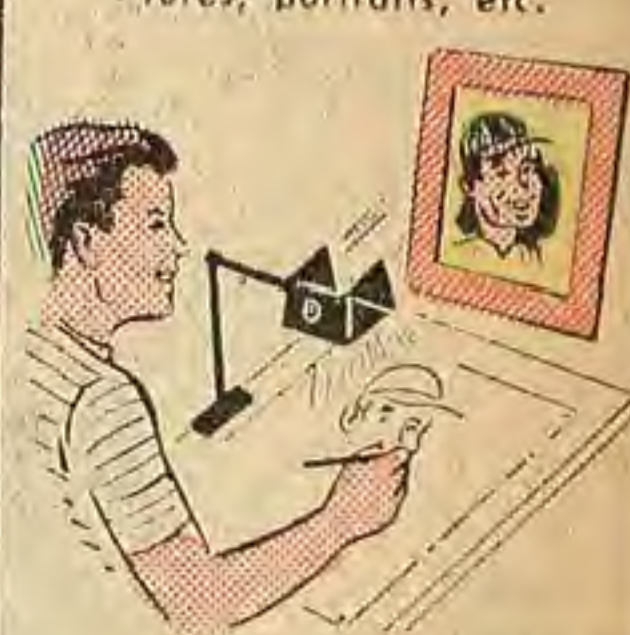
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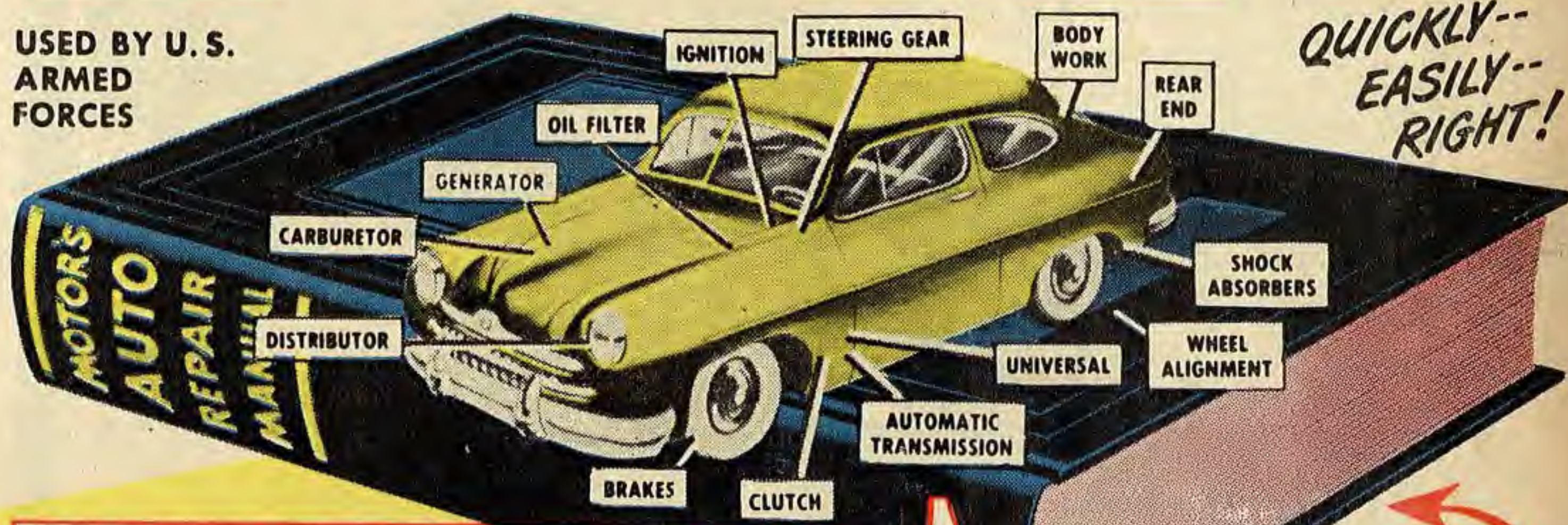
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